[10th September 1958

(*d*) whether there was any delay in accepting the rates for timber; and

(*e*) whether any work was turned out in the carpentary section during the period, when no timber was available or purchased?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) There is a carpentary section where the prisoners manufacture articles of furniture. There is no section for manufacturing tools

(*b*) The finished products are supplied to Government departments. The value of the articles of furniture sold in 1957 was Rs. 65,166.

(*c*) In June 1958.

(*d*) A new system of inviting tenders on a centralised basis has been introduced as an experimental measure. This being the first year in which the trial is made without extra staff, there was some unavoidable delay. The question how matters could be further simplified and expedited in regard to the next tender is engaging the Inspector-General's attention.

(*e*) Regular work was turned out during the period with the timber which was on stock at the end of the previous contract year.

*Loans on standing crops*

* 150-N Q.—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any loans have been granted on standing crops; and

(*b*) if so, the amount given in 1957–58 district-war?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) No loans are granted from Government funds on the security of standing crops. Loans are, however, granted on the pledge of standing crops by Co-operative banks.

(*b*) The amounts given in 1957–58 by the Co-operative Banks are :

| | RS. |
|---|---|
| (i) Pattukottai Co-operative Central Bank, Limited. | 86,830 |
| (ii) The Nilgiris Co-operative Central Bank, Limited. | 69,517 |
| Total ... | 1,56,347 |

MR. SPEAKER : Questions are over.